



# Invest in Macedonia

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## Introduction of the Republic of Macedonia

Macedonia is located in the Balkans and shares common borders with Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia and Kosovo. The country covers an area of 25,713 km<sup>2</sup> has a population of 2.02 million (latest census, 2002). Once part of the Yugoslav federation, Macedonia gained independence from Yugoslavia peacefully on September 8th, 1991. Since then Macedonia has chosen the path towards the European and Euro - Atlantic integration. The diplomatic relations between the Macedonia and Japan were officially established on March 1st, 1994. The Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Tokyo was officially opened in 2013 and in 2017 Japan officially opened its Embassy in Skopje. Macedonia is multiethnic, democratic, safe, and a country leader in economic reforms in the region. It was ranked 10th in the world and 5th in Europe according to the Ease of Doing Business Report of the World Bank. Macedonia has the lowest taxes in the world and 2nd biggest GDP growth in Europe.

## Ten Reasons to Invest in Macedonia

### 1. Strategic Geographical Position

Macedonia benefits from a strategic geographical position at the crossroads of two major pan-European transportations corridors linking Central Europe to the

Adriatic, Aegean and Black Sea. From Macedonia each European country is reachable for only 72 hours by truck or rail. Although a landlocked country, the closest harbor in Thessaloniki can be reached for only 2.5 hours. Another important advantage of Macedonia is the same time zone with the European countries which is very important for doing business.

### 2. Access to Markets

While the Republic of Macedonia is a small country of around 2 million people, the market is actually more than 650 million consumers. The reason behind is the conclusion of Free Trade Agreements between Macedonia and the EU, CEFTA, EFTA, Turkey and Ukraine.

### 3. Higher Profitability

Macedonia is ranked 1st in the world in lowest total tax rate according to the PwC and World Bank Study Group Report 2016. In Macedonia the income tax and the corporate tax amounts 10% and the reinvested profits is 0%. Macedonia also offers up to 10 years tax holidays and 27% pension and social security deductions.

### 4. Macroeconomic stability

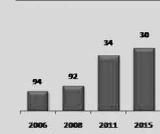
Macedonia has a macroeconomic stability which is expressed through stable GDP growth – 3.7% average GDP growth over last three years (2nd in Europe), low

**ビジネスのしやすさ**  
世界ランキング

2017年世界ランク マケドニア共和国  
第10位

ヨーロッパで 第5位

From 94<sup>th</sup> Place in 2006  
to number 10 in 2017



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Equal Opportunity for All

- ユーロペリティアへの接続,すべてのインフラの利用可
- 建設コストに対する最高50万ユーロの補助金
- 開発工業団地からEU各国への迅速な輸出を行うため,国境でグリーン税関チャネルの利用可
- 最高99年間,開発工業団地内の土地を長期貸賃可
- 研修および雇用創出助成金
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- 製造業における平均月額総収入 – 390ユーロ

**Strategic Location**



Most of Europe  
Within 3 days by rail or truck  
within 3 hours flight  
within same time zone

2,000 km

Europe  
Middle East  
North Africa

素晴らしい戦略地政学上の位置 商品は1日で中欧と東欧、トルコ、そして最大でも2日以内に西欧に配達されるでしょう。



**Andrijana Cvetkovik** is the first resident Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to Japan and the youngest among 169 ambassadors in Tokyo. She is also one of a select few Ambassadors in Japan who are fluent in Japanese. She speaks five languages. Ambassador Cvetkovikj was Visiting Associate Professor at Kyoto University prior to her diplomatic posting. She has a Doctoral Degree from Nihon University Graduate School of Arts in the field of Japanology and cinema studies. Prior to her nomination she was a university professor, film director, public speaker, AI specialist. Ambassador Cvetkovikj is also a philanthropist, entrepreneur, commentator on global politics and diplomacy and peace-building. Ambassador Cvetkovikj worked as a professor and researcher at several top academic institutions in Japan and Europe such as Kyoto University, Nihon University Research Center, the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken), the European Academy ESRA Paris-Skopje-New York and others. The latest news about the activities of the Embassy is available on this Facebook page.

 <https://www.facebook.com/andrijanacvetkovikj.taishi/>

inflation rate of 2% on average in the past 10 years and a well-functioning coordination between fiscal and monetary policy. The domestic currency is called Macedonian Denar.

#### **5. Skilled workforce**

Macedonia prides itself with its educated, highly-qualified, and ethical workforce that is available to foreign investors. 41.5% of the population in Macedonia is under the age of 30, while 98% speaks fluently English and many other foreign languages. The average gross monthly salary is €525.

#### **6. Free Economic Zones and excellent incentives**

Macedonia has 15 free economic zones (FEZ) around the country which offer incentives for foreign investors. Investors in the FEZ are exempted from all the taxes for the first 10 years. In the FEZ up to €500.000 can be granted as incentive towards building costs. Land in a FEZ is available under long-term lease for a period of up to 99 years. Other benefits include free connection to natural gas, water, electricity and access to a main international road network.

#### **7. One-stop-shop-system for registering business**

This system enables investors to register their businesses after 4 hours of submitting on application. One can register a company in Macedonia by visiting one office, obtaining the information from a single place, and addressing one employee.

#### **8. Business friendly government and leader in economic reforms**

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia has been designed to attract foreign investors to Macedonia and ease their business in the country. There are four Ministers for attracting foreign investments, two

agencies that support foreign investors and Directorate for economic diplomacy within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition to that, economic reforms have been continuously implemented, that made Macedonia economic leader in the region. The reforms that the country has implemented in the past several years allowed it to rise from the 94th positions of Ease of Doing Business of the World Bank Report in 2016 to the 10th position in the world and 5th in Europe in 2017.

#### **9. Diverse Investments Opportunities**

There are diverse opportunities to invest in Macedonia. Some of the attractive fields for investments are: manufacturing, IT, healthcare, tourism, R&D etc. The favorable investment climate has attracted many companies from around the world to set up their production facilities in Macedonia. Some of the significant foreign investors include Johnson Matthey (UK), EVN (Austria), Deutsche Telecom (Germany), Kromberg & Schubert (Germany), Van Hool (Belgium), Societe Generale (France), Johnson Controls (USA), KEMET etc.

#### **10. Quality of life**

There are 280 sunny days with four seasons throughout the year in the Republic of Macedonia. According to the World Economic Forum Report, Macedonia has been ranked 4th friendly country in the world for foreigners.



#### **マケドニア大使館**

マケドニアでのビジネスや、投資、貿易について、是非お気軽にお問い合わせください。

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